

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



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LETTER REPORT
FOR
THE OLD DUMP NEAR WICK ELEMENTARY SITE
ROMULUS, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
TDD# T05-9404-008
PAN# EMI1366SAA
DOCUMENT CONTROL NO.: TAT-05-25-04081
SEPTEMBER 21, 1994

Prepared For:
Ms. Gail Nabasny
Deputy Project Officer
Emergency and Enforcement Response Branch
Emergency Support Section
U.S. EPA Region V

Contract No.: 68-WO-0037

Project Manager: Mark A. Durso Date: 9-21-94
Prepared By: Sandra L. B... (SLB) Date: 9-21-94
Reviewed By: Mark A. Durso Date: 9-21-94
Approved By: Sandra L. B... (SLB) Date: 9-21-94



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September 21, 1994

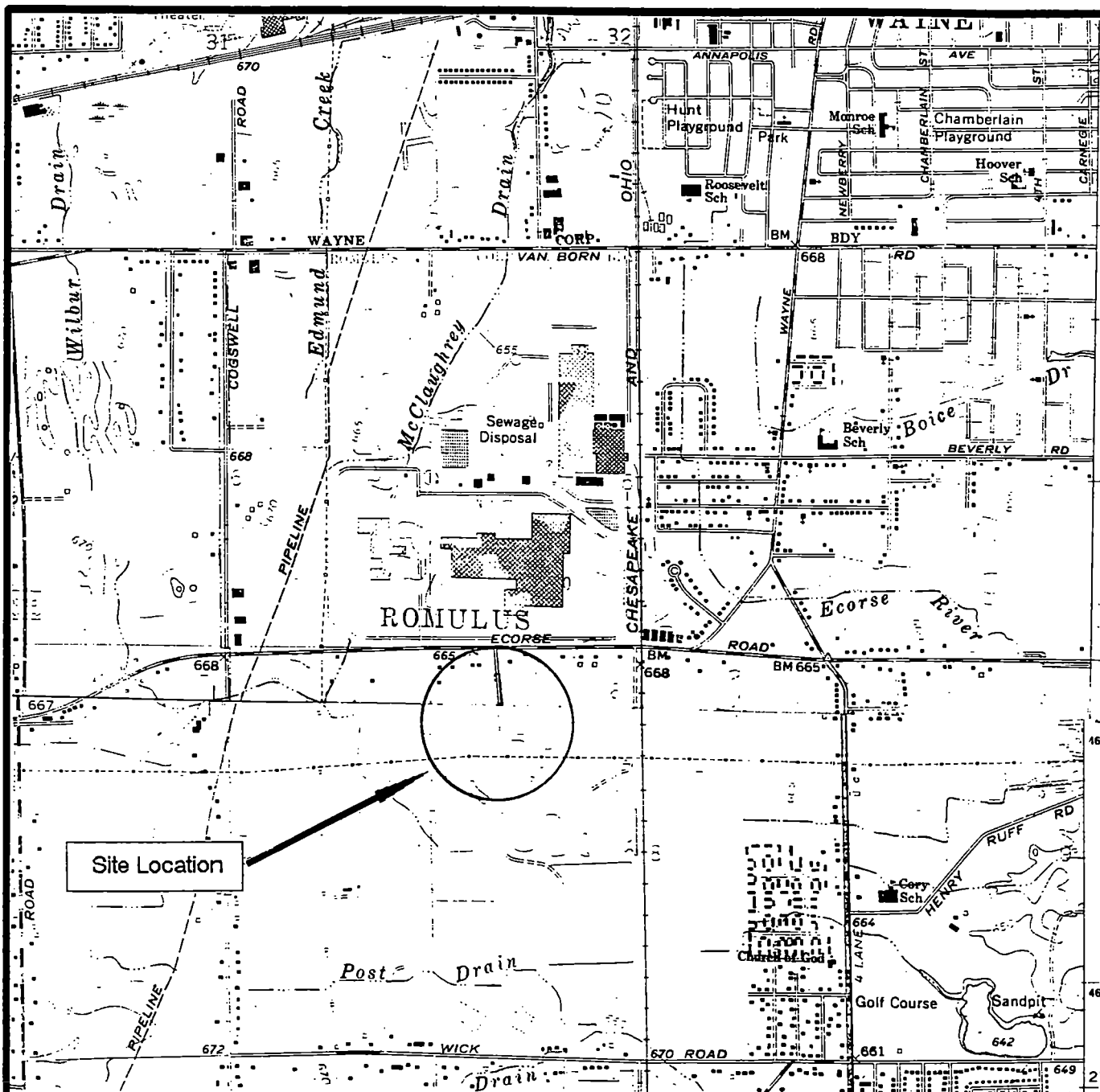
Ms. Gail Nabasny
Deputy Project Officer
Emergency Support Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 W. Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

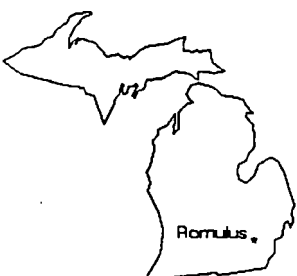
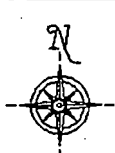

Re: Old Dump near Wick Elementary Site
Romulus, Wayne County, Michigan
TDD # T05-9404-008
PAN EMI1366SAA

Dear Ms. Nabasny:

On April 1, 1994, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) tasked the Ecology and Environment, Inc., Technical Assistance Team (TAT) to perform a site inspection and evaluation under Technical Directive Document (TDD) Number T05-9404-008. Tasks to be completed under this TDD included: prepare a health and safety plan; conduct air monitoring, as appropriate; prepare and implement a sampling plan, if required; evaluate the threat posed to human health and the environment; provide verbal briefings to the On-Scene Coordinator (OSC), as necessary; document and photodocument on-site activities; develop alternative removal approaches with cost estimates, if requested by the OSC; and assist in the preparation of information for an Action Memo, if requested. The TAT member responding was Mark A. Durno. This letter report summarizes the activities conducted under this TDD.

The Old Dump near Wick Elementary (Old Dump) site, located in Romulus, Wayne County, Michigan (Figure 1), is comprised of an open field reputed to be the location of the dumping of various industrial chemicals and hazardous wastes, industrial/demolition debris, and scrap tires. The industrial wastes and other materials were alleged to have been dumped into excavations and landfilled. At no time has the property been a permitted landfill. Since dumping ceased, the area has become overgrown with small trees and low scrub. The Old Dump site is located in a light industrial/residential area of the



  Romulus	 ecology and environment, inc. Technical Assistance Team Region V		
	TITLE Site Location Map		FIGURE # 1
	SITE Old Dump Near Wick Elementary		SCALE 1 : 24,000
SOURCE/DATE USGS 7.5 Minute Series Topographic Wayne Quadrangle	CITY Romulus	STATE Michigan	TDD # T05-9404-008

west by wooded land and private residences, and to the south by wooded land and the Post Drain. Ecorse Road and Wick Road, both major local thoroughfares, are located immediately adjacent to the site, and Wick Elementary School is located a short distance away to the northwest. Access to the site is unrestricted as the property is not fenced.

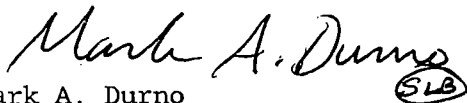
The Old Dump site came to the attention of the U.S. EPA Emergency and Enforcement Branch (EERB), Section 1, Grosse Ile, Michigan, as a result of an investigation into historic dumping in Wayne County, Michigan, conducted by U.S. EPA Special Investigator Joseph Kaweck, and U.S. EPA OSCs Ralph Dollhopf and Jason El-Zein. Review of historic documents and interviews of private citizens revealed that the Old Dump site had been the site of routine dumping and burying of industrial waste and demolition waste over an extended period. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has been involved in investigating this and a neighboring site. To date, the MDNR has completed a geophysical survey of the property and has installed groundwater monitoring wells.

On April 6, 1994, OSC Ralph Dollhopf, Special Investigator Kaweck, and TAT member Mark Durno visited the site. Representatives of the MDNR, Tex Irvin, Bruce Van Auten, and Karen Belfin, were also present. The MDNR group were conducting on-going site assessment work at the site. The EPA entered the unsecured site with the MDNR group and performed a non-intrusive visual inspection of site conditions. Mounded areas were noted throughout the site. As area topography is not rolling or hilly, the presence of these mounds suggests buried waste. This hypothesis is supported by the geophysical survey conducted by the MDNR, which indicated magnetic anomalies in the mounded areas. The group also observed scrap metal, dried and hardened surface waste material, and weathered, deteriorated steel 55-gallon drums scattered throughout the site. Further investigation, perhaps in the form of test trenching and soil sampling, would be required to determine and/or confirm the type and extent of industrial waste buried at this site. The limited information and observations available for the Old Dump site were insufficient to adequately determine the hazard to human health and the environment posed by the site.

As the MDNR is actively investigating the site and is pursuing an investigation into the identity of potentially responsible parties (PRPs), the OSC determined that there was no need for the U.S. EPA to become involved in site activities at this time. However, the EPA continues to work with the MDNR and local agencies in their pursuit of PRPs and in their efforts to clean up the site and will provide further assistance should it become necessary.

The preparation of this report completes the requirements of this site assessment TDD. Please contact this office should any additional information on this phase of site work be required.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mark A. Durno in cursive script. The signature is written in black ink and includes a circled "SLB" at the end.

Mark A. Durno
TAT Engineer

Handwritten signature of Sandra L. Basham in cursive script. The signature is written in black ink and is followed by a horizontal line.

Sandra L. Basham
Assistant TAT Leader

cc: Ralph Dollhopf, OSC

Jason El-Zein, OSC